New Haven Dec. 24. 1838.

My very dear Brother

After a long interval of anxious expectation — we have at last had the satisfaction of again hearing from you — but alas! the pleasure was not wholly unalloyed! — The intelligence of your sickness distressed & grieved us — but we were deeply, truly rejoiced at the prospect of your recovery — & it is our heartfelt prayer that ere this, you are restored to health — It seems to us, that there were many reasons for gratitude in the circumstances of your illness — viz in time, & place, &c — Had it occurred in some former part of your journey — far from the comforts & advantages of civilisation — I dare not think of what the result might have been — but thanks to a kind, & overruling Providence, you were within reach of medical & other assistance — & so *near* your beloved family, that they could join you —

Believe me, my brother, my heart aches now, at the danger you have passed as I picture to myself the sad scenes of September as connected with you — & I long most ardently — most impatiently for farther intelligence

When I was daily anticipating the receipt of a letter from you, & as often disappointed — it did not occur to me, that it was sickness, that prevented your writing — & from my stupidity perhaps, I was spared the pain of the *anticipation* of evil. *Now*, I am again hoping for a letter by the ship of Nov 8th — & as that will be *half a month*, later than the other, I am quite sanguine in the belief, that I shall not be disappointed —

I had a promise from brother Charles, that he would write you at this time, but come to the point, he says he is so entirely occupied, that it is utterly impossible — This is his busiest season of the year — for it is the period for the renewal of policies of Insurance — & he is obliged to do a great deal of writing. Last night he did not come in to house until 1/2 past 1 — — He seems to have as much *business* as *time* — & to be quite satisfied — the plan of emigrating to Michigan, is for the present abandoned — & in the Spring they will probably take a larger house — & make themselves more comfortable — —

There is but little of interest, so far as I know, transpiring in New Haven. It is the time of the holidays — & the ladies are anticipating the pleasure of New Years calls from the gentlemen — This custom is becoming very common, & appears to meet universal favour — At Christmas we were invited to dine at brother George's — & all went except sister Nancy who was not well enough to go out — We had a pleasant time — & did not forget our far distant friends — We hoped for their good health — & comfortable situation — but felt how little we could know of either, so far away.

Mr Cleveland's church is divided — & he, with a part of them have gone off & meet in another place — "Taylorism" was the foundation of the difficulty — & those that remain, have organized a new church & hired Dr Taylor to preach for them — Mr C— is absent now on a begging tour, to obtain funds to build a church. Mrs C— says he has met a very favorable reception in Albany & Troy — & has now gone to Philadelphia. Brother C— has never been satisfied with attending the Third church, & has therefore taken this opportunity to leave the Society — We had taken seats in the Center church — altogether the most desirable in the city.

There has been considerable trouble on the frontier within the last six weeks — but the attacks have been so disastrous, that at present all is quiet — The first was made at Prescott, opposite Ogdensburgh, by between 2 & 300 young men, from the States — They were met by the royal forces, & all who were not killed, were taken prisoners — & since, three have been condemned & executed — The others are still retained — Another band of self styled patriots, of about the same number, crossed the river above Detroit — & attacked the village of Windsor — lying opposite the city — some buildings, & a steamboat were burned — some lives of both parties were lost — but a reinforcement of royalists, from Malden put the patriots to flight — & as they could not cross the river, they fled to the woods — Many were taken prisoners — & we have recent accounts that some have frozen to death — Not a Canadian joined them, thus evincing how little need there is for so much sympathy — There was much excitement in Detroit about the time of this attack & a guard patroled the streets — but Anna's last letter written just before, did not manifest any degree of alarm — One would think that such disastrous results, would cool patriotism of this character

Dec. 29. 1838
Ans'd Feb. 19. 39

About three weeks after my return I received a letter from Mr Romeyn pastor at Utica, mentioning that he expected to come to New York & as the river was frozen nearly that way it was intention to return by way of New Haven. We consequently expected him here for some days — but it is so long now that we suppose he must have returned the other way. I do not know what called him east so soon — but presume it must have been some thing unexpected. — Our friends at D— were all very well at the latest advices — & were all living together as during the summer.

I have been very much surprised this afternoon to hear of the death of the little boy of our cousin Mrs Cleveland — I saw him on the 25th in health — & to day the 27th he is to be buried — the disease was an affection of the throat — aged 22 months — His Father returned yesterday just before his death — The little girl is also very sick

& all send love

Your affectionate Sister

Elizabeth